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The La Crosse City Council backs away from a plan to spend 125-thousand dollars on a consultant to look at cost-cutting measures. Instead, the council is setting up a committee to decide whether a consultant is needed. Some members of the public portray the consultant idea as yet another council-driven attack on Mayor Matt Harter, who they argue was elected specifically to cut spending. Alderman Dick Swantz backs the consultant plan, and thinks the critics may not realize how complicated local government can be, claiming they view it as a 'Tinker-Toy set...simple stuff.'

The council voted unanimously to eliminate the funding proposal from the resolution, and approved the idea of a study committee with just one 'no' vote.